

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

parts per ?

1. (Currently Amended): A combustion promoter composition suitable for use in a fluidized catalytic cracking process, said composition comprising a component which contains (i) an acidic oxide support containing at least 50 weight percent, (ii) about 1-10 parts by weight of an alkali metal and/or alkaline earth metal or mixtures thereof, (iii) at least 1 part by weight of a transition metal oxide having oxygen storage capability, and (iv) at least 0.1 parts by weight palladium, all of said parts by weight being per 100 parts by weight of said acidic oxide support.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended): The composition of claim 2-1 wherein said acidic oxide support is selected from the group consisting of alumina, silica alumina, and lanthana alumina.
4. (Currently Amended): The composition of claim 3 wherein said acidic oxide support is a silica alumina.
5. (Original): The composition of claim 4 wherein said silica alumina has an alumina:silica mole ratio of about 3-50:1.
6. (Currently Amended): The composition of claim 1 wherein said oxygen storage transition metal oxide contains ceria.
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)
9. (Cancelled)

50% what?

8

10. (Currently Amended): The composition of claim 9—1 wherein said component contains about 2 to 50 parts by weight of said oxygen storage oxide per 100 parts by weight of said acidic oxide support material.
11. (Original): The composition of claim 1 wherein said component contains about 0.01-5 parts by weight of palladium per 100 parts by weight of said acidic oxide support material.
12. (Original): The composition of claim 1 wherein said component consists essentially of constituents (i) – (iv).
13. (Original): The composition of claim 12 wherein said composition consists essentially of said component and said composition is in the form of particles.
14. (Currently Amended): A fluid cracking catalyst comprising (a) a cracking component suitable for use in cracking hydrocarbons, and (b) a component which contains (i) an acidic oxide support, (ii) an ~~alkali metal and/or~~ alkaline earth metal or mixtures thereof, (iii) a transition metal oxide having oxygen storage capability, and (iv) palladium.
15. (Original): The cracking catalyst of claim 14 wherein said cracking catalyst comprises an admixture of component (a) in particulate form and component (b) in particulate form.
16. (Original): The cracking catalyst of claim 14 wherein said cracking catalyst is a particulate composition comprising integral particles which contain both components (a) and (b).
17. (Currently amended): A method of cracking a hydrocarbon feedstock into lower molecular weight components, said method comprising contacting said hydrocarbons with a cracking catalyst comprising (a) a cracking component suitable for use in cracking hydrocarbons, and (b) a component

which contains (i) an acidic oxide support, (ii) an ~~alkali metal and/or~~ alkaline earth metal or mixtures thereof, (iii) a transition metal oxide having oxygen storage capability, and (iv) palladium, at elevated temperature whereby said lower molecular weight components are formed.

18.

- (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein said catalyst is fluidized during said contacting and said method further comprises recovering used cracking catalyst from said contacting step and treating said used catalyst under conditions suitable to regenerate said catalyst.
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